

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A data provisioning method, comprising the steps:
receiving data items from a particular user for provision to users;
~~storing the data items or data defining access to data items for provision to the users;~~
~~maintaining, for at least one user, one or more users, respective service level~~
~~data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the respective users;~~
~~receiving data items or data defining access to data items from users for~~
~~provision to users;~~
~~receiving rating data from said particular user one or more users relating to data~~
~~items provided to the these users;~~
~~changing the respective service level data for the these users from which data~~
~~items or data defining access to data items were received in dependence upon received~~
~~rating data relating to the these received data items; and items or data defining access~~
~~to data items; and~~
~~providing service to said particular user in a user in dependence on the service~~
~~level data for said particular user. that user.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the service level data comprises a proportion value, and wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data items or data defining access to data items

corresponding to a proportion of the available data items or data defining access to data items substantial corresponding to the proportion value ; and providing the sub-set to the requesting user.

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein each data item or set. of data defining access to a data item has a property having a value, and the service level data comprises a content access value relating to the property, wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data items or data defining access to data items in dependence on the respective values, and providing the sub-set to the requesting user.

4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 3, wherein the property values and content access values are times and/or dates.

5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 3, wherein the property values and content access values are geographical positions.

6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the service level data is a transmission rate value, and the servicing step comprises determining a set of data items or data defining access to data items which meet the request, and providing the set to the user at a transmission rate in dependence on the transmission rate value.

7. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises receiving requests for specific data items or data

defining access to data items from users, and changing the service level data for the user from which the requested data item or data defining access to data was received.

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring the time or date at which a first data item or data defining access to a data item is received in relation to the time or date a second data item or data defining access to a data item is received, and changing the service level data of the user from the which first data item or data defining access to a data item was received in dependence on the difference between the times and/or dates.

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring the time since the receipt of a data item or data defining access to a data item, and changing the service level data of the user from which the data item or data defining access to the data item was received in dependence on the monitored time.

10. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, and further comprising the step of permitting a user to perform manipulations of the stored content items or data defining access to content items in dependence on the user's service level data.

11. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, collectively performed by at least a sub-set of peers within a peer to peer network.

12. (Currently Amended) The method ~~A method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the rating is weighted according to the service level value of the rating user.

13. (Currently Amended) A tangible computer medium containing a computer program or suite of computer programs arranged such that when executed by a computer system or a plurality of computer systems it/they cause the computer system or systems to perform the method of claim 1.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A data provisioning system, comprising:

data receiving means arranged in use to receive:

i) data items or from a particular user for provision upon request to users;

and

ii) rating data from the particular user relating to data items provided to the users; and

a data store storing:

i) the data items or data defining access to data items for provision to the users; and

ii) for at least one user, ~~one or more users,~~ respective service level data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the ~~respective users;~~

data receiving means arranged in use to receive:

a processor arranged in use to perform the following steps:

i) change the respective service level data for the ~~these~~ users from which data items or data defining access to data items were received in dependence upon received rating data relating to the ~~these~~ received data items or data defining access to data items; and

ii) provide service to said particular user in ~~a user in~~ dependence on the service level data for said particular user. ~~that user.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the service level data comprises a proportion value, and wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data items or data defining access to data items corresponding to a proportion of the available data items or data defining access to data items substantially corresponding to the proportion value ; and providing the sub-set to the requesting user.

17. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein each data item or set of data defining access to a data item has a property having a value, and the service level data comprises a content access value relating to the property, wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data items or data defining access to data items in dependence on the respective values, and providing the sub-set to the requesting user.

18. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 17, wherein the property values and content access values are times and/or dates.

19. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 17, wherein the property values and content access values are geographical positions.

20. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the service level data is a transmission rate value, and the servicing step comprises determining a set of data items or data defining access to data items which meet the request, and providing the set to the user at a transmission rate in dependence on the transmission rate value.

21. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the changing step further comprises receiving requests for specific data items or data defining access to data items from users, and changing the service level data for the user from which the requested data item or data defining access to data was received.

22. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring the time or date at which a first data item or data defining access to a data item is received in relation to the time or date a second data item or data defining access to a data item is received, and changing the service level data of the user from the which first data item or data defining access to a data item was received in dependence on the difference between the times and/or dates.

23. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring the time since the receipt of a

data item or data defining access to a data item, and changing the service level data of the user from which the data item or data defining access to the data item was received in dependence on the monitored time.

24. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the processor is further arranged to perform the following steps :- permit a user to perform manipulations of the stored content items or data defining access to content items in dependence on the user's service level data.

Claim 25 (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) The system ~~A system~~ according to claim 15, wherein the rating is weighted according to the service level value of the rating user.

27. (Currently Amended) A data provisioning method, comprising the steps:
receiving data items from a particular user for provision to users;
storing the data items ~~or data defining access to data items~~ for provision to the users;
maintaining, for at least one user ~~one or more users~~, respective service level data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the ~~respective~~ users;
~~receiving data items or data defining access to data items from users for provision to users;~~
receiving rating data from said particular user ~~one or more users~~ relating to data items provided to the ~~these~~ users;

changing the respective service level data for the ~~these~~ users from which data items ~~or data defining access to data items~~ were received in dependence upon received rating data relating to the ~~these~~ received data items ~~or data defining access to data items~~; and

providing service to said particular user in a user ~~in~~ dependence on the service level data for said particular user, ~~that user~~;

wherein each data item ~~or set of data defining access to a data item~~ has a property having a value, and the service level data comprises a content access value relating to the property, wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data items ~~or data defining access to data items~~ in dependence on the respective values, and providing the sub-set to said particular ~~the requesting~~ user.

28. (New) A data provisioning method, comprising the steps:
- receiving data defining access to data items from a particular user for provision to users;
 - storing the data defining access to data items for provision to the users;
 - maintaining, for one or more users, respective service level data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the users;
 - receiving rating data from said particular user relating to the data defining access to the data items provided to the users;

changing the respective service level data for the users from which data defining access to data items were received in dependence upon received rating data relating to the received data defining access to data items; and

providing service to said particular user in dependence on the service level data for said particular user.

29. (New) A data provisioning system, comprising:

data receiving means arranged in use to receive:

i) data defining access to data items from a particular user for provision upon request to users; and

ii) rating data from the particular user relating to the data defining access to data items provided to the users; and

a data store storing:

i) the data defining access to data items for provision to the users; and

ii) for at least one user, respective service level data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the users;

a processor arranged in use to perform the following steps:

i) change the respective service level data for the users from which data defining access to data items were received in dependence upon received rating data relating to the received data defining access to data items; and

ii) provide service to said particular user in dependence on the service level data for said particular user.

30. (New) A data provisioning method, comprising the steps:

receiving data defining access to data items from a particular user for provision to users;

storing the data defining access to data items for provision to the users;

maintaining, for at least one user respective service level data usable to determine a level of service to be provided to the users;

receiving rating data from said particular user relating to data items provided to the users;

changing the respective service level data for the users from which data defining access to data items were received in dependence upon received rating data relating to the received data defining access to data items; and

providing service to said particular user in dependence on the service level data for said particular user,

wherein each set of data defining access to a data item has a property having a value, and the service level data comprises a content access value relating to the property, wherein the servicing step comprises determining a sub-set of the data defining access to data in dependence on the respective values, and providing the sub-set to said particular user.